



● INFO memo - April 2, 2004

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City to Observe Good Friday Holiday

In observance of Good Friday, City of Broken Arrow offices will be closed on April 9.

City Hall and the Community Center will both be closed on that day. Police and fire departments will work the holiday, but there will be no curbside trash pickup. Those who normally have Friday service will not have pickups again until the following Tuesday, as regular schedules resume.

The Community Center will be open Saturday, April 10, but closed on Easter Sunday. The annual Jaycee Easter Egg hunt, which had been scheduled for Saturday (April 10), has been cancelled, due in part to the major landscaping project which has been underway around the creek area.

City offices will be open Monday (April 12).

Cartoon Network Tennis Club Returns to BA

Once again this year the City of Broken Arrow will be one of the host sites for the Cartoon Network Tennis Club program. Classes begin April 20, with the deadline for registration April 19.

Those joining the club receive a backpack, t-shirt, practice ball, wristbands, shoelaces, grip tape, vibration dampener, tennis activity book and certificate of award.

Cost of the 6-week program (with two lessons per week) is \$90. The Beginner class will meet Tuesdays from 6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m., and the again on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Intermediate classes meet Tuesdays from 7:15 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

There are also adult tennis lessons available once a week for six weeks from 11 a.m. to 12 noon. Cost is \$45.

For more information on the tennis program, call 259-8437.

Volleyball leagues have started at the Community Center, with 12 teams playing on Monday night Power Volleyball and 10 playing on Tuesday nights. A beginners' volleyball class starts April 6.

The Hershey Track Meet will be held Saturday, April 3, at South Intermediate High School. The city is sponsoring that event here for the second straight year.

Broken Arrow 'McReady' for Severe Weather

The City of Broken Arrow is working with the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management and local McDonald's restaurants in getting more information out to area residents about preparing for severe weather.

Displays have been set up in all of the Broken Arrow McDonald's restaurants with information that can help save lives and property.

April and May are traditionally two of the worst months for severe weather in Oklahoma. Local McDonald's restaurants, including those in Broken Arrow, will be joining hands with emergency management officials to get information out to the public on how to prepare for that severe weather.

Branon Dodd, the City's Employee Safety/Risk Manager, said Broken Arrow would be scheduling some displays for the McDonald's in town, and putting more emphasis on information available through the City's web site (www.brokenarrowok.gov). Included on the web site are sample sounds of the warning sirens for tornadoes, floods, and terrorist attack. City representatives will also be making some live demonstrations in selected McDonald's.

Broken Arrow is rated a "Storm Ready" community.

Free Trash Bag Distribution Begins April 12

The first week of distribution of free plastic trash bags to Broken Arrow residents will be held April 12 through 17. Water Department officials said the cards that can be traded in for 200 free trash bags should be in the mail sometime with the next week to 10 days.

You can bring your card to the Maintenance Center of the City at 1700 W. Detroit (behind Rhema) and exchange it for four rolls of 50 bags each. There will be signs along Elm and Aspen directing motorists to the distribution center, and there will be Public Works employees outside the building handing out the bags. You won't have to leave your vehicle.

Distribution is from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday (April 12-17 and April 19-24). To avoid heavy traffic, try to make your pickup at mid-morning or mid-afternoon.

On May 1, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., the City will hold its annual Spring Cleaning Day, with an opportunity for BA residents to bring their lawn debris, old furniture, etc., to the Maintenance Center at no charge. Not accepted, however, will be hazardous waste of any kind, including (but not limited to) oil, paint, batteries, refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners; as well as roofing materials, bags of dirt or rocks, etc.

The City Council each year has supported these programs in a continuing effort to keep Broken Arrow clean and maintain an attitude of pride for the community.

Hirsch Saluted for Crime Solving

Crime Analyst Tim Hirsch of the Broken Arrow Police Department has been cited on numerous occasions for the work he's done in providing crime statistics. Recently he was commended for helping in the arrest of a rape and assault suspect in Tulsa – without ever leaving his computer!

Hirsch was asked to help the Tulsa Police Department in identifying the tag number from a video tape made in the area of a parking garage where a Tulsa nurse was abducted and attacked. A partial tag was visible, but Tulsa PD could not enhance it enough to get a full identification. Although Hirsch was off duty at the time, he came into the office and used the City's technology to provide enough vehicle information that a location and subsequent arrest of the suspect was made.

In his commendation to Hirsch, Chief Todd Wuestewald said, "The technical skill, dedication to duty and concern you displayed in this case was exemplary. You were instrumental in identifying a dangerous suspect in a brutal crime, and no doubt have prevented additional crimes of this nature. I commend and congratulate you on your professional excellence."

BA Cops Contribute to 'Tiger Eye'

"Tiger Eye," a magazine published six times each year by Broken Arrow High School, recently published a series of articles on careers. Sgt. Al Cross of the BAPD was one of the contributors to that issue with a feature on forensics.

In the same issue, Sgt. Ed Ferguson was interviewed for a long feature on the dangers of drinking and driving.

Street Projects Continue

Although it's getting closer to completion, the work being done on Lynn Lane between the BA Expressway and Albany continues to give motorists reasons to slow down.

One of the major components of the expansion work was the closing of Reno as it comes west onto Lynn Lane (9th Street). A new, safer through street is being constructed east past Lowe's and on to County Line Road.

There is also considerable work being done at the intersection of Albany and Lynn Lane. Motorists should slow to at least 30 mph in the construction area and be prepared to stop.

Work has been proceeding quickly with the good weather on neighborhood street improvement projects in Oak Creek and Wolf Creek, and is now moving into the Wedgewood area.

Statue Preparing for Permanent Jackson Home

Glenna Goodacre's "Crossing the Prairie" statue, which has been residing at the lobby of First National Bank for more than a year, is now being prepared for a move to its permanent home at Jackson Park.

The acquisition of the statue was a combined effort of First National and the City. A base has been constructed at Jackson Park for the piece of art, and City crews are moving "Crossing the Prairie" from the bank to its new home.

Jackson Park, at the northeast corner of Washington and Garnett, has rapidly become one of the most popular parks in Broken Arrow.